

MARCH, 1975

OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS

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On the cover: Shawn Turner of Dorchester warms up his newly-adopted kitten. Adoptions reached a high point in 1974 (see page 8).





ANIMAL RESCUE LEAGUE OF BOSTON

Publisher of OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS

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March, 1975

Volume 72, Number 1

Cover Photo by Kevin Cole
Courtesy of BOSTON HERALD AMERICAN

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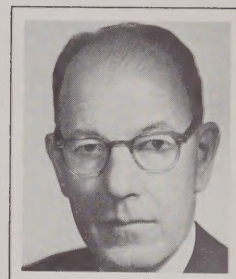
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OUR FOURFOOTED FRIENDS . . . Published March, June, September and December by the Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116. Price \$1.00 a year. Office of Publication, Animal Rescue League of Boston, 10 Chandler Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116. Address all correspondence, editorial, change of address, subscriptions to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, Post Office Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117. Second Class Postage has been paid at Boston, Massachusetts. US ISSN 0030 6851



from the editor's desk

Where is the Leader?

Boston is where the bicentennial began, we are reminded daily in radio, TV and print promotions for our nation's birthday.

Massachusetts was also the birthplace of the first public grammar school in the country, the first university and the first anti-cruelty legislation in the country -- written by Reverend Nathaniel Warde into the Commonwealth's fundamental code of laws in 1641.

With this history of leadership in freedom, in education, in concern for animal welfare, it is inconceivable that thousands of young people from Massachusetts and other parts of New England are unable to pursue a career in veterinary medicine simply because they live here. Yet that is what is happening, every year.

Today, virtually no New Englander can get into a college of veterinary medicine in this country because there is no such college in New England and because colleges in other regions are filled to capacity with students from their own states, or other states with which they have reciprocal arrangements.

The story on page four tells of one talented youngster's perseverance in attempting to enter what is virtually a closed profession here. It also graphically demonstrates the reasons why the Animal Rescue League of Boston is joining other humane organizations in support of the establishment of a college of veterinary medicine in New England.

The rejection rate for New England applicants to colleges of veterinary medicine last year was 95%. According to American Veterinary Medical Association standards, New England now has a shortage of approximately 1100 veterinarians. In the interests of animal welfare, and the future of our youth, it is time, and past time, for the leader to act.

Carlton E. Buttrick

Nancy dreams for all of us

Today's Veterinary Medical Crisis in New England

by Richard W. Bryant

Since the days when the country veterinarian would come out to the farm to see what was ailing "bossie", boys and girls have dreamed of how wonderful it would be to be an animal doctor.

But as youngsters grow to maturity, most of them change their minds and become farmers, lawyers and housewives. Often it's their academic performance that helps them change career choices, since only the best students can go to veterinary school. Sometimes, other careers simply become more interesting to them as they grow older and new interests and skills emerge.

But what of a student who never waivers from the goal set as a youngster, but cannot gain admission to a veterinary school? There are countless numbers of college students all over New England who are genuinely interested in the welfare of animals, but cannot pursue their goals.

Nancy Flynn is a typical example of the young people we see or hear from at the League who are trying, in vain, to become veterinarians. Nancy is in her last year at Emmanuel College in Boston. She is concentrating her studies in Biology and has been guided in her selection of courses by the department chairman, Donald Procaccini.

Professor Procaccini feels she has been ably prepared for veterinary school admission. Her overall grade average, an A-, makes her scholastically desirable.

We know Nancy well. She has been a student volunteer with us for almost a year. While working in our Pet Adoption Kennel, she helps us place unwanted animals with responsible families. Nancy also assists the veterinarians in our Clinic, holding animals for them during examinations, helping when animals must be X-rayed, and assisting in the operating room when necessary.

There are hundreds of students in New England just like Nancy. They have all maintained outstanding records of scholastic accomplishment through high school and college, and have usually worked closely with animals at zoos, private veterinary hospitals, dog kennels, humane societies and on farms during the summer months, just to be sure that they are making the right career choice.



Nancy Flynn checks a new candidate for adoption.

If these people were heading for a law school, medical school, or some other type of advanced education, it would be difficult to gain admission. However, those with the proper qualifications would be admitted. There are 19 colleges of veterinary medicine in the United States. Nancy has applied to all but a few, and has been rejected admission by every one of them. That is not unusual for New Englanders; 95% of all applicants are rejected. The problem lies with the fact that New England does not have a college of its own. Wherever students apply, they are considered to be non-residents. The colleges always consider the residents of their state first. Most then have agreements with neighboring states to consider their students next. That means New Englanders are at least third in line for consideration.

With so few colleges of veterinary medicine, the requirements for admission are often more strict than requirements for medical schools. The American Veterinary Medical Association recently reported that "Interest in medicine in general and animals in particular has lead to a flood of applications to veterinary colleges across the country." The colleges are admitting one in eight applicants.

As an example, Michigan State University College of Veterinary Medicine is one of the colleges where Nancy applied. They had 115 spaces last year for their freshman class. 754 students applied for admission, and of the 115 accepted, only 5 students were not residents of that state. Another, Iowa State University, only took 7 non-residents. A number of magna cum laude graduates of the University of Vermont were rejected by all 19 veterinary schools last year.

There is such a great demand for admissions that almost all of Nancy's requests for applications were simply answered by a form letter such as this one from the University of California:

"The present policy of the University of California regarding admission of out-of-state and foreign students to the School of Veterinary Medicine is as follows: 'With only rare exceptions, admission to the School is limited to residents of the State. In cases where exceptions are made, first preference is given to residents of states participating in the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education.' As a non-resident, or resident of Colorado or Washington (which have their own veterinary schools), there is virtually no chance that you will be admitted on any future application."

Besides satisfying the critical need for veterinarians in New England, (we are over 1,000 short of the national average) a regional college would provide many other benefits to man and animals. We need proper health care for the 20 million head of livestock and poultry here. Veterinary inspectors are in great demand for overseeing the livestock and poultry products industry. Veterinarians are needed to provide proper health care and emergency services for our pets. A college of veterinary medicine would be a place for continuing education for practicing veterinarians, provide facilities for diagnosing unusual animal diseases, and would professionally train veterinary technicians as well.

There have been two basic proposals presented as answers to this problem. The first would be to "buy seats" at established schools. Under contractual agreements with such colleges as Cornell University and the University of Pennsylvania, for example, the New England states would pay about \$12,000 for each student to attend. Under this plan New England could send 60 students per year to the schools. The contractual agreement system would meet the immediate student demand and is being studied and explored by the presidents of the six state universities.

The second proposal is to establish a regional college of veterinary medicine in New England.

The 1974 Massachusetts Legislature reserved the former Grafton State Hospital site for this college. Located five miles from the University of Massachusetts School of Medicine in Worcester, the site is felt by many to have great potential. The 1,100 acre site has 55 buildings including cafeterias, dormitories, dairy barns, an auditorium, power plant and an approved water and sewage system. According to Alan D. Ferguson, Executive Director of the New England Board of Higher Education, we need \$385,000 for planning. When an acceptable plan has been authorized by the American Veterinary Medical Association, we would be in the position for federal funds from the Health Resources Administration. Massachusetts has already authorized \$200,000 for planning money, if at least three other states participate.

The estimated construction costs of \$30 to \$35 million would be paid for by federal funding, private contributions, and the six regional states. Although jointly owned and governed by three trustees from each state, the cost would

be proportioned according to the states' population: Massachusetts - 48%, Connecticut - 25.6%, Maine - 8.4%, Rhode Island - 8%, New Hampshire - 6.2%, Vermont - 3.8%.

A regional college would be able to serve approximately 800 full-time students, 200 veterinary technicians, 100 practicing veterinarians taking refresher courses, and 100 graduate students at any given time.

Nancy has written to many individuals and organizations in her request for admittance to a veterinary college and in search of information pertaining to a college being constructed in New England. It is interesting to note that the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association, New England Veterinary Medical Association, New England Board of Higher Education, the Vermont Veterinary Medical Association, and the Massachusetts and Connecticut Departments of Agriculture have voiced their support for the proposed school as well as many others. In Massachusetts, both Senators Edward M. Kennedy and Edward W. Brooke, are in favor of establishing a regional veterinary college. In a letter dated January 14, 1975, Massachusetts Governor Michael S. Dukakis stated, "It is important that we have adequate training and numbers of veterinarians to care for our livestock on farms as well as our pets."

But the most interesting letter was received from Richard D. Lindsay, D.V.M., Chairman of the Legislative Committee of the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association. He wrote, "At the present time there is legislation being prepared to create a regional veterinary college, and I would recommend that you contact your state representatives, senators, and also the governor and urge them to sponsor such legislation, so that New England may soon take care of her own students in a veterinary career. I am sorry that I cannot be more encouraging, but the Massachusetts Veterinary Medical Association has spent over ten years in trying to establish such a school, and if many individuals make their feelings known, I am sure that it will be a successful venture."

The Animal Rescue League of Boston feels that the establishment of a regional college of veterinary medicine is long overdue. Hundreds of students, like Nancy Flynn, have been turned away for too long a period of time.

We feel the key to opening doors is two-fold. The first step is a temporary program of contractual agreements with established veterinary colleges. This would serve the immediate plight of our students and the needs of New England. The second half lies with the construction of a college by the six states, which would take two or three years to build, but would in the long run be most advantageous to the people and animals of New England.

Premier Showing



The premier showing of "A World To Build", the new film on kindness as a stepping stone to a better world, will be held at the Animal Rescue League's Annual Meeting on April 30, 1975 in the League's Boston headquarters.

League members and friends are cordially invited to attend.

The film, which runs twenty minutes, was commissioned by the Animal Rescue League as part of its 75th Anniversary Celebration.

In full color and sound, "A World To Build" was made over the last half-year on location in Boston, Cape Cod, Salem and several other suburban greater Boston communities.

It shows the many manifestations of kindness to our animal friends and demonstrates the validity of the League's motto "Kindness Uplifts the World" which was originally promulgated by the League's founder Mrs. Anna Harris Smith.

Produced by Ballantine Films, Inc. the film will be made available for showing in libraries, schools and by humane associations, clubs and other groups. It will also be available for use on television.

Groups wishing to book the film may do so by contacting:

Education Department
Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265
Boston, MA 02117

ARL Alumni Corner

Meet Harvey, a part dalmatian, part pointer, part plain poóch, whose "spotty" ancestry and sex (Harvey is a girl) has been no drawback to success. Adopted from the League two years ago this month by Theresa Conway of Allston, Harvey has combined companionship with a career. When her young owner joined the staff of Brookline Tropical Fish and Pet Supply company seven months ago, Harvey decided that what the new business obviously needed was a public relations pet. Now she journeys to the Beacon Street store each day (often via MBTA) where she fetches leashes and collars to display to customers, amuses them by speaking, rolling over and sneezing on command, and makes her presence felt to such an extent that owner Paul Dalton says, "some of our best customers began coming in just to see Harvey."



Alumni Corner will be a regular feature in Our Four-footed Friends. If you or someone you know have a pet adopted from the League that people would enjoy reading about, just send a glossy black and white picture, together with the animal's story in 50 words or less to Alumni Corner, Animal Rescue League of Boston, P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117.

IT DOESN'T HAPPEN EVERY DAY...

In the course of their duties, League agents deal with a wide variety of dramas involving members of the animal kingdom. Some of them, though tragic, occur so frequently as to be almost commonplace -- the animals abandoned when owners move on, those left homeless when families are evicted, others in need of emergency temporary care when their owners are hospitalized. From time to time, though, there are stories that are uniquely heartwarming, inspiring or thought-provoking. Here are a few out-of-the-ordinary animal adventurers -- some luckier than others -- who have been helped or treated at the League in recent months.

NO SEA DOG



Peter Faux, ARL dispatcher, comforts Gypsy.

A young German Shepherd named Gypsy, an ardent hockey fan but a reluctant ocean voyager, is safely back home in Charlestown after nearly floating from Boston Harbor out to open sea atop a five-foot ice floe. Plucked from her ice island by the Coast Guard as the current carried it through Little Mystic Channel, Gypsy was sped to ARL headquarters where she was warmed and dried in a cage equipped with a hot-air blower.

The dogragged seafarer -- known during her sojourn at the League as Rex, or the Surfer -- wore a collar but no identifying tags. But when her photo appeared in next morning's Herald American, the delighted Stingel family of Charlestown immediately recognized and claimed their missing pet, Gypsy. The dog's troubles began, it seems, when she went down to the water to watch local youngsters play hockey. She apparently stood on a piece of ice that broke loose and began its dangerous journey out to sea.

LONG WAY HOME

When a dog from Florida disappears en route to Maine where do you expect to find him? At the Animal Rescue

League of Boston, naturally. Last summer the League received a stray dog, thin, in need of medical treatment and the only clue to his identification, a Jacksonville, Florida rabies tag.

The League contacted the veterinary hospital listed on the tag and they in turn located the surprised and grateful owner whose dog, Shep, had broken out of his shipping crate at Logan Airport two months earlier, during a stopover on a flight to the family's summer home in Maine.

After medical treatment and a few good meals, Shep was flown (in a more secure crate) to his waiting family, who had given up hope of ever seeing him again. A few days later the League received this letter from his owner: "My sincere thanks for your efforts in locating our lost dog. I hope this contribution of \$50 will help in similar efforts for others."

MAN'S INHUMANITY

Not all stories have a happy ending; and so it was with the one that began on a winter weekend when strollers along the banks of the Charles River noticed a seagull on the banks, not moving at all. When they drew closer to investigate, they found the bird had been caught in an illegally-set steel-jaw leg-hold trap.

A phone call brought Dan Bibel, League emergency ambulance driver, to the scene where he freed the injured bird and brought it back to the League. Despite all efforts to save it, the bird had been trapped for too long and its leg was too badly mangled to survive. The trap did not bear an identifying plate with the name and address of the trapper (as required by law) and it is now in League headquarters, a grim demonstration of why the League is sponsoring a search for a humane alternative to the steel-jaw trap, and has supported legislation to have its use outlawed in Massachusetts as of July, 1975.

LUCKY BREAK

His leg injured after being struck by a car, and a barking dog in hot pursuit, a cat in West Medford instinctively ran to the right place for help. When the Lamme family discovered the injured animal at their cellar window seeking shelter, they covered it with a blanket, erected a screen around for protection and called the League.

At the League, the cat's injuries were treated and it was held as a lost pet for days, but still no one claimed it. In the meantime the Lamme family called regularly to check on the cat's progress, and when they heard it was unclaimed, decided to give it a home with them.

"It's a beautiful cat and it didn't cry once all the way home", they wrote, "... thank you all for caring for that little creature." And thank you for caring, Mr. and Mrs. Lamme.



Annual Report 1974

The year 1974 has been a difficult one for the League. As we celebrated our 75th Anniversary of service to our animal friends, we found increased demands for services in virtually every aspect of our operation. This, coupled with the inflationary trend of the day added additional strain throughout the organization. The need was manifest -- and I am proud of the manner in which the League responded.

Carlton E. Buttrick

Carlton E. Buttrick
President

Pet Placement and Lost and Found **Arthur G. Slade, Director, Operations**

The Pet Placement Department at headquarters shelter has had a record number of pets placed in loving homes during the past year. There was an increase of 417 dogs over last year and a remarkable increase of 512 cats, which certainly demonstrates a renewed interest in our feline friends. This made for an all-time high record of 5,349 dogs, cats and miscellaneous animals placed this year by the Boston shelter. This number combined with the excellent record of our branch shelters, made for a grand total of 7,985 animals placed during 1974. A few messages from some of our new pet owners truly express the spirit of our pet adoption goals.

"We feel very fortunate to have our cat; so far, there have been no problems and we are very impressed with the care and concern that the Animal Rescue League of Boston shows for their adopted animals."

"Toby is a well-behaved kitten who has taken in stride two dogs, six kids and two adults. He can handle any and all of us. Your shelter is the best one I have ever seen, and I have recommended its services many times."

"Our dog (Licorice) seems to be quite content. She is healthy and is very, very good, and we all love her. I took her to the vet and he said that you took very good care of her. Thank you."

"Our pet, Pippen, is very cute and well-adjusted to our home. I think your organization is a great thing and have recommended you to many of my friends."

The Lost & Found Department has experienced one of the busiest years in recent memory. No doubt an added dimension to this department has helped to account for this increase in activity. On August 15, 1974, the League completed arrangements with the Boston Police Department so that the League is now able to issue Boston dog licenses to local residents who find their lost pets at our shelter and thereby eliminate the need and trouble of traveling back to their local police station to obtain the license. This, along with our overall animal control efforts, has combined to reunite 1,692 dogs with their owners. This is an increase of 322 over last year. A total of 55% of all strays were either returned to their owners or placed in new homes.

Collection and Rescue Service (Operations)

The Collection and Rescue Service is constantly on the move calling for lost, unwanted, injured and sick animals and nearly daily responds to calls for animals in distress that tax the imagination and ingenuity of our agents.

One of the most vexing was faced by agent Ed Hrul when he responded to a call one evening for a Beagle dog that had become hopelessly caught beneath some huge rocks along the banks of the Charles River. Each rock weighed several hundred pounds and it was impossible to move them. It was equally impossible to reach the dog from the small opening beneath the rocks where he had apparently crawled into his

potential rock tomb. After many attempts to move some of the smaller rocks, Mr. Hrul realized his efforts were futile and called for help.

The Boston Fire Department was quick to respond and with the aid of additional manpower and heavy moving equipment, the frightened dog was lifted from beneath the rocks by Mr. Hrul. His owner called for him the next morning at our shelter.

Dog control efforts have moved forward and expanded this year. Agents are now issuing citations for leash law violations and our staff has been busy processing these citations in the eight district courts of Boston. We feel that these efforts have had a positive effect in areas where we have been able to make a concentrated effort in controlling and protecting the canine population.

Inspection and Investigation Department (Operations)

Inspectors have been busy this past year investigating and inspecting 2,520 cases concerning the care, neglect, and abuse of animals. This involved 48,537 animals ranging in size from elephants at circuses to mice and gold fish in pet shops.

We are happy to report that the pet shop law passed a few years ago is working well and has brought about improvements in many pet shops. Under this law, our inspectors are given the right to inspect pet shops and enforce the rules and regulations in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture. The annual license fee of \$50.00 has helped in eliminating the marginal or part-time pet shop.

League inspectors ended 1974 with the happy task of delivering 593 Christmas dinners to horses in the greater Boston area. We are grateful to the Blue Seal Feed Company for donating a half-ton of horse feed for this long-time custom of the League.

Animal Clinic: Natalie L. Knowles, D.V.M. **Director, Veterinary Medicine**

As the pet population increases, so does the work of the League's animal clinic. During the past year, our veterinarians provided health care to 16,943 animals which represents a slight increase over the number treated last year.

The return of Dr. James Cavanaugh to the veterinary staff has increased the number of the League's full-time veterinarians to five, and this is reflected in the 2,151 spay and neuter operations on shelter animals, compared to 1,743 in 1973. The clinic staff also has been evaluating a new D.H.L. (distemper, hepatitis, leptospirosis) vaccine to cut down the incidence of tracheal bronchitis, familiarly known as kennel cough. Other health care procedures range from major surgical cases to first aid. It also should be noted that the veterinary staff is responsible for the health care of the thousands of animals sheltered at headquarters each year.

Humane Education; Richard W. Bryant **Director, Education and Information**

1974 was a busy year with more than 1,000 youngsters attending educational programs and tours held here at the League, and 25,000 children participating in humane education programs presented at Massachusetts schools. The school

presentations included 80 performances by the ARL Marionettes Karen Karten and Judith Klein, with pet care talks, and 36 programs on pet care, pet population surplus, wildlife conservation and other humane concerns.

In addition to these on-going activities, several new projects were undertaken in conjunction with celebration of the League's 75th Anniversary. Among these were an animal photography contest which drew over 200 entries; a cat film festival; a special anniversary booklet; a new film on the A.R.L. called "A World To Build"; and numerous television appearances including special promotions by Pet Ambassador Carmelita Pope, who visited the League as part of the anniversary celebration.

Thousands of pet care brochures, including a new publication on Small Pets, were distributed to school libraries and youngsters all over the United States, and Pet Care Corner columns were syndicated bi-weekly to approximately 60 newspapers in Massachusetts. A new employee newsletter called "Paw Prints" also made its debut this year.

Participation in fairs and exhibits continued as a major vehicle for bringing the message of kindness to children and adults. The Marionettes performed at the Eastern States Exposition and the League's Annual Fair; the League had an exhibit at Burlington Mall during National Dog Week, at the Eastern Dog Club Show and at the Earth Day display on the Boston Common. Three pet shows were sponsored including our annual summer pet show in North Falmouth, one at the Thornton Burgess Celebration in Sandwich, and at Great Animal Day in Cambridge.

For the first time a group of some 50 inner-city youngsters spent a week at the Animal Friends Summer School. Other youth-oriented activities included formation of a new club for youngsters, the Animal Friends Club, which now has over 200 members; an educational program series at the League for Mackey School students, and a special program for student volunteers interested in animal-oriented careers.

Dog obedience training classes were also held throughout the year, except for the summer, when the staff once again conducted classes at the six-week Animal Friends Summer School program, attended by some 350 youngsters.

Livestock Conservation Department **John S. Norton, Director**

Highlights of the 1974 activities of the Department of Livestock Conservation (which entailed 20,000 miles of travel through New England and Canada) include 26 horse care and livestock conservation lectures to over 1800 students and adults, displays at seven fairs and association meetings, and the preparation of four new publications.

Subjects of exhibits ranged from livestock conservation methods to how best to utilize meat once purchased. Over one million people were reached through these displays at the Big E in Springfield, the Augusta Agricultural Trade Show, and various breed organization meetings.

Among new publications issued were a New England Livestock Conservation, Inc. bulletin; a booklet on control of cattle grubs; a booklet of "Winter Hints for Transit Safety" of livestock; and a fire alert safety sticker for horse owners and stables. A new

format was also designed for "More Money from Livestock," the monthly publication of New England Livestock Conservation, Inc. (NELCI), which realized a membership increase for the second consecutive year.

The department also conducted checks of three Canadian - U.S. border inspection stations for livestock shipments and is involved in an examination of the shipment of horses by semi-trailer, preparing a list of recommended regulations for the trucking industry to improve the comfort and well-being of animals transported long distances.

Activities also included three television shows on livestock conservation, distribution of over 150,000 pieces of livestock conservation literature, and establishment of an award program for young horse showmen.

Dedham Branch, Arthur W. Foster, Supt.

On a brilliant October afternoon, some 200 delegates to The American Humane Association's annual convention meeting in Boston visited the League's Dedham Branch and Pine Ridge Cemetery. As they walked around the well-kept grounds, they were enthralled by the autumn foliage and the peacefulness of this beautiful spot. It was for these same reasons that during the past year, 109 people selected Pine Ridge as the last resting place for their deceased pets. An additional 102 pets were cremated and the ashes of 30 buried in this garden of memory.

This Branch also received 526 live animals for humane disposition.

Cape Cod Branch, Brewster, Mass. **Donald Westover, Manager**

While there was a slight decrease in the number of animals handled by the Cape Cod Shelter in the past year, 3,198 versus 3,350 in 1973, a total of 549 dogs and cats were placed in new homes, and 832 lost or stray pets returned to their owners.

The addition of Greig Johnson as Assistant Manager of the Branch has made it possible to provide more effective animal control for the communities on the Lower Cape, and a much-needed addition to the shelter has increased the capacity of our present comfortable animal quarters. Mr. Westover also continues to broadcast his programs on lost pets and pet information over radio station WVLC.

Sheldon Branch, Salem, Mass., Sherman Bates, Mgr.

Activities at the Sheldon Branch continued at an accelerated pace this year. Both dog and cat adoptions increased substantially, 1,269 dogs placed compared to 1,059 last year, and 791 cats versus 634 in 1973. Overall, the Salem facility received 10,738 animals, including 2,727 dogs, 7,620 cats, and 391 miscellaneous birds and animals.

Since this Branch employs only two people, Sherman and Norene Bates, it is a tribute to them that the Shelter and animals are maintained in tip-top order. It is noteworthy that Sherman joined the League staff on November 3, 1926, and thus celebrated his 48th year of continuous service on that date in 1974. In service longevity, Sherman ranks second only to the late Archie MacDonald, who some older members may recall as the League's indomitable inspector.

COMBINED RECORD OF ANIMALS FOR YEAR ENDED JANUARY 31, 1975

	Dogs	Cats	Horses	Cattle	Sheep Swine	Birds Poultry	Misc.	TOTALS
Collected by Agents	8,998	14,024				278	437	23,737
Brought to Shelter	6,403	7,024				52	227	13,706
Clinic	12,422	4,428					93	16,943
Investigation Dept.	9,437	1,060	14,982	9,562	1,448	3,461	8,587	48,537
Sheldon Branch	2,727	7,620				177	214	10,738
Pine Ridge Branch	172	304					50	526
Cape Cod Branch	1,752	1,293				20	133	3,198
TOTALS	41,911	35,753	14,982	9,562	1,448	3,988	9,741	117,385
Number of Investigations		2,520						
Horses Destroyed		5						
Dogs Placed in New Homes		4,829						
Dogs Returned to Owners		2,468						
Cats Placed in New Homes							3,089	
Cats Returned to Owners							157	
Misc. Animals Placed in Homes							67	
Number of Quarantines							1,428	

TRAVELING with Bo

HOW TO BECOME A CANINE CUM LAUDE

The large number of phone calls and letters received at the League dealing with dog behavior problems prompted Mr. Bojangles, the League mascot, to visit a few of the dog training schools around New England and find out for himself how canines fare in the classroom.

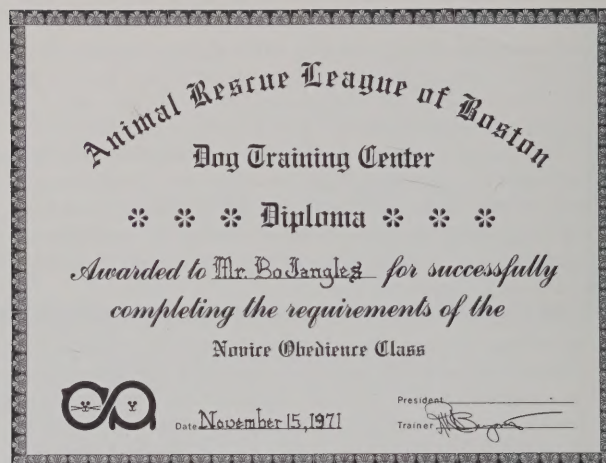
Teaching methods, he discovered, are basically the same at most obedience programs, with the canine pupils learning together with their owners in group classes. While there are many excellent private dog trainers available, the League recommends group classes for most pets. In a group, the dogs learn to work with each other, to get along with humans other than their own masters, and to obey commands despite the distraction of a sometimes noisy student body.

Costs vary, but the average seems to be from \$15 to \$25 for a six to eight-week course. Basic obedience training usually includes teaching a dog to sit, stay, come on command and walk at the owner's side both on and off leash.

Many of the people who bring their pets to the League's dog obedience classes, which are held year-round except for summer vacation, are looking for help in handling behavior problems. Among the most common bad habits are chewing, chasing cars, howling when left alone, and general aggressive behavior. With patience and a little insight into how a dog learns this bad behavior, patterns can be changed. And the effort is worth it -- family, friends and even landlords will be much fonder of a well-mannered pet.

There are many good dog obedience training programs throughout New England. For the convenience of readers outside the Boston area, here is a list of a few trainers that we know will be happy to answer questions and provide help in finding a dog obedience program in your locale.

Pickwick the Irish setter performs for owner Joyce Gallagher and Mr. Bojangles.



Connecticut: Ox Ridge Kennel Club, Stamford, CT.
Mrs. James Hausman (203) 322-4216

Maine: Piscataqua Obedience Club, Kittery Pt., ME.
Mrs. Willard (207) 439-9252

Massachusetts:

Western: Canine Obedience School, Springfield
Mrs. Dykstra (413) 739-6036

Boston: Animal Rescue League of Boston
Richard Bryant (617) 426-9170

North Shore: Old Colony Dog Training Club, Danvers
Mrs. Aylward (617) 774-6281

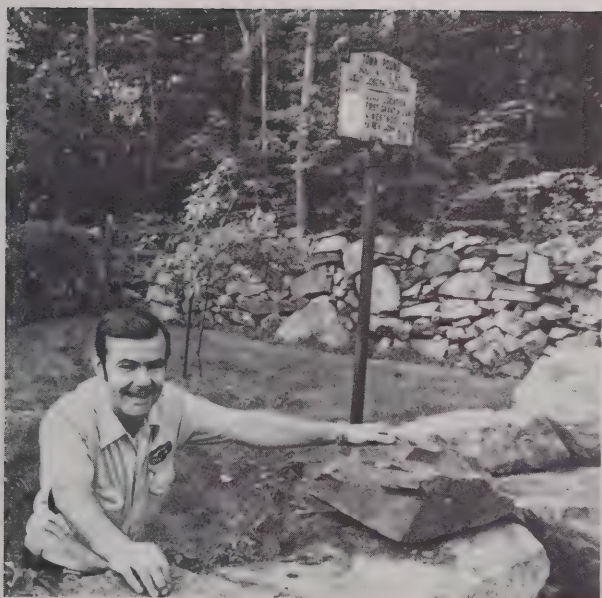
South Shore: South Shore Dog Training Club
(Hancock Armory)
Margie Robinson (617) 328-1220

New Hampshire: Cheshire Kennel Club, Marlboro, NH.
Mrs. Fred Hueglin (603) 876-4565

Rhode Island: Obedience Training Club of Rhode Island,
Providence, RI
Mr. Rouviere (401) 944-8535

Vermont: Green Mountain Dog Club, Inc.,
Waterbury Center, VT.
Mrs. Chris Woelfel, (802) 244-8932





The town pound, A YANKEE ACROPOLIS

Colonial New England's poundkeepers corralled stray farm animals until the owners collected them, on payment of a fine. There's a pound, circa 1700, in Westwood, Mass., and Bill Jacobs (above) was named its official Keeper after foiling two men who were carting part of it away.

by Dan Carlinsky

Here and there in small New England towns — close by the village green, perhaps, or at the side of a winding country road leading out of town — the eagle-eyed traveler will chance upon what looks like a small corral, stone, most likely, although perhaps of weathered wood.

The traveler may doubt that there is much livestock in the area and may thus deduce that the corrals serve little purpose, and of course he would be right. But to some history-minded New Englanders, these piles of rocks and boards are important monuments to a departed way of life.

America's first immigrants brought with them horses, cows and pigs. Along about the latter part of the 1600's things in New England began to crowd up. Two of Ebenezer's pigs were always getting into Jed's corn, and Zeke's cows were always straying into Amos' chickens.

In a number of the more populated areas, the town fathers devised a scheme to deal with the problem. They ordered built a town pound and designated a poundkeeper, who would confiscate stray farm animals, incarcerate the beasts and collect a fine from the rightful

owner when he came to collect his strays. The fine paid the poundkeeper's salary.

Politics being what it is, an occasional appointee was known to sneak an animal off a farm in the dead of night so that he could collect a fee in the morning. It was a kind of turnabout, since more than one farmer had been known to creep quietly to the pound before daybreak to reclaim a stray with no fine attached.

But whatever its flaws, the system prospered. During the 17th and 18th centuries, town pounds sprung up from Maine to Connecticut. Later, as small farmers disappeared and larger ones learned better how to cope, the pounds fell into disuse. Most of them simply vanished, their stone or timber hauled off for other purposes.

But some remain. Local historical societies have preserved and in some cases totally restored the pounds to serve as markers of New England's past.

In Westwood, Mass., on Route 109 just southwest of Boston, for instance, a chest-high stone rectangle stands at the road's edge, in an area of large, pleasant homes. According to the president of the Westwood Historical Society, Dr. J. Worth Estes, as far as anyone in town knows, the stone is the same that Joseph Colburn used to build the pound on his property in 1700. Colburn was paid 40 shillings for the construction, according to town records, and he himself collected the fines. The land around the pound is still in his family.

A wooden gate at the rear of the pound has been repaired. A lone, tiny oak tree stands in the center — planted recently to replace the giant oak that was felled in the 1938 hurricane. There is also a plaque reading: "Town Pound. Built in 1700 by Lieut. Joseph Colburn." The pound is usually kept neat, swept of intruding brush and leaves by the town tree warden.

One evening a few years ago, a Westwood plumber by the name of Bill Jacobs saw a pair of men preparing to cart off some of the pound's choicer stones. He called the police and the thieves were nabbed. In gratitude, the Westwood town selectmen appointed him official Keeper of the Pound, for which he receives no compensation and performs no duties. "I guess they did it because I seemed to be interested in the pound," said Jacobs.

There are at least a dozen pounds still standing in New England, in places like Parsonsfield and Porter, Me., Auburn and Chester, N.H.; Pembroke and Shirley Center, Mass.; Chepachet, R.I., and Hebron, Conn. Some, like the one in Parsonsfield, are now overrun with brambles, but savvy townspeople know their locations and can direct the inquisitive.

America hasn't much in the way of preserved ruins — certainly nothing to compare with the heavily viewed souvenirs of ancient Rome and Greece. But the town pounds, in their own way, are our Coliseum and Acropolis. At least that's the way the poundkeepers of New England like to think about it.

Cat-Astrophic Fall Breaks Just A Record

A six-month old Honolulu cat named Misto had a 16-story fall this year -- and broke only a record. According to the Associated Press story, the cat tumbled from the 19th story balcony of his owner's apartment to a third-floor balcony, a distance of some 145 feet. Guinness Book of World Records lists the official record as 120 feet, set by an English feline named Pussycat in 1965.

Response Shows Strong Interest In Trap Contest

WANTED

A HUMANE ALTERNATIVE
TO THE
STEEL-JAW
LEG-HOLD TRAP

\$10,000 REWARD

Since the announcement in December offering the A.H.A.'s \$10,000 reward for a humane trap, the League has received enthusiastic responses from people all over New England.

Individuals, engineering classes and design professionals are among those who have expressed serious interest in developing a humane alternative to the controversial steel-jaw leg-hold trap.

Elephants Trump Up Jumbo-Sized Damages

With the circus due to parade into Boston next month, it's an appropriate time to pass along the story from Italy about 10 circus elephants who broke ranks in a parade down the main street of Lignano, near Venice, and caused over \$192,000 worth of damage before they were caught. More than one hundred automobiles were smashed during their rampage which also destroyed several garden walls and a tennis court before ending in the kitchen of a local hotel where the last two were caught after wrecking the kitchen and scaring the wits out of the astounded cook.

Inspector Walter Robinson, who has been the League's behind-the-scenes representative at the circus for over 10 years now, assures us that our local elephants march to the tune of a more peaceful drummer than their European relatives. The mammoth marauders, by the way, earned themselves a week's layoff from work with their escapade -- which may be what they were after all along!

First-Class Flight Smooths Ruffled Feathers

Man-made wings enabled thousands of Swiss swallows to survive an unseasonably cold winter this year. Severe cold and bracing headwinds stranded tens of thousands mid-way on their annual migration to warm Mediterranean climates. Unable to navigate the Alps, exhausted and unable to find food, they would have died without the aid of Swiss bird lovers who took in the stranded tourists, fed them and provided temporary shelter.

The ultimate in travelers aid, however, was provided by Swissair and the Swiss Federal Railways. Riding in ventilated cartons in air-conditioned splendor, many thousands of the wing-weary vacationers were given free passage via the skies over the mountains and the railroad tunnel beneath to the sunny southern slopes of the Alps, and Nice, Marseilles, and Barcelona on the other side.

ARL Looks At Horse Transportation

Recent Connecticut court action involving the abusive transportation of horses in semi-trailers has prompted action by the League's Department of Livestock Conservation. A ten-member committee, representing animal welfare institutions throughout New England, has been formed to examine the problem and arrive at a set of humane recommendations for transportation of horses.

At present, the humane movement is without a set of recommendations that are acceptable on the part of humane societies and persons involved in the transport of these animals. Such a list is now being prepared and will soon be presented to the trucking industry for endorsement.

Cooperating in the effort are Animal Rescue League of Boston, New England Livestock Conservation, Inc., New England Federation of Humane Societies, Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, Rhode Island SPCA, New Hampshire Humane Society, Connecticut Humane Society, Massachusetts Department of Agriculture, Maine Department of Agriculture and the University of Connecticut.

Announcing the 1975 NEW ENGLAND LIVESTOCK CONSERVATION SCHOLARSHIPS

One \$300

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For New England Students Furthering Their
Education with an Interest in Animal Science

For Information and Application write:

NELC Inc.
Box 265
Boston, Mass. 02117

Slade Named To National Animal Protection Post

Arthur G. Slade, director of operations at the League, has been named New England Commissioner of the National Council on Animal Protection. A volunteer task force organized by The American Humane Association, the Council is made up of 150 animal welfare specialists from all parts of the nation.

Needed: A Surgical Monitor For Veterinary Clinic



Animals anesthetized for surgery can benefit immeasurably by the addition of a monitor like the one pictured to the League's clinic facilities.

The surgical monitor gives a continuous visual and auditory record of the patient's cardiac and respiratory rates, allowing changes to be detected immediately so that quick corrective actions can be taken before a state of emergency exists.

This piece of equipment costs approximately \$600 and the League is asking its members if they can help to purchase it. Your gift -- large or small -- will help ensure the safety and well-being of every animal that must undergo surgery at the clinic. If you can help, please mark your gift, "For surgical monitor" and send it to the Animal Rescue League of Boston, P. O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117.

Hard Times Spur Monkeyshines

Japanese motorists are doing double-takes these days since a group of medicant monkeys took to panhandling along an expressway in Fugawara. They were let go by a private zoo forced to close because of inflation and higher feed prices, according to a city official who reported that drivers often stop and give them candy or vegetables.

CHILDREN AND ANIMALS

by Richard W. Bryant

Adults brought up on Black Beauty, Lassie, and other tales of idyllic relationships between animals and their young masters sometimes assume that children are born with a natural affinity for animals. Not so.

Appreciation for animals must be taught. Parents are often disappointed and even deeply distressed if their youngsters treat animals with indifference or apparent cruelty. They forget that children need to be prepared for other new situations -- a new baby, enrolling in nursery school, or learning to share toys with other children.

You can begin teaching a child to like animals just as soon as he is old enough to understand words. Reassurances like "nice doggie" and "see the pretty pussy cat" are all part of communicating your own feelings to the child that animals are among the good things in life.

It is better to wait until a child is beyond the destructive toddler age before actually introducing a puppy or kitten to your own household. If you do bring home a small animal while your children are still tiny, expect them to manhandle or drop the new pet and keep a watchful eye out at all times to prevent unintentional injury.

The time to prepare the children for a pet is before you bring the animal home. You and your older children will enjoy reading up on the kind of pet you've selected, and getting advice from veterinarians or friends with pets. Remind children that their pet will be a playmate, not a plaything. Teach them how to handle it properly and remind them it will love them more quickly if they are always thoughtful, kind and gentle.

This is also the time to suggest responsibilities for each member of the family. Even a four-year old is not too young to give the pet his dinner after it has been prepared. Even small duties help a child learn to treat other living creatures with care.

If a dog or cat is impractical for your home, children can enjoy and learn just as much by caring for a turtle, or gerbil or even a white mouse.

Finally whether a child has his own pet or not, he can learn to appreciate and love animals through visits to zoos, farms, pet shops and the homes of relatives or neighbors who own pets. Encouraging a child to visit the library and read any of the excellent juvenile animal books available is another way to develop understanding and trust.

The Animal Rescue League sponsors a club just for young people who want to learn more about animals called the "Animal Friends Club." In addition to regular club literature, members get a copy each month of the American Humane Association's National Humane Junior Review which carries stories on wildlife, pet care, puzzles, book reviews and other items of interest to young people.

Interested in enrolling your child, or a friend or relative? Just mail the coupon below to A.R.L., P.O. Box 265, Boston, MA 02117.

BE AN ANIMAL FRIEND



ENCLOSED IS \$1 MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR:

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ADDRESS _____

AGE _____ GRADE _____



CHECK ONE: Please send me POSTER ☐

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Come to the
Animal Rescue League of Boston's

ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, April 30, 1975 2:30 P.M.
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Featuring the Premier Showing of:

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*A new film on kindness produced by the League as part of
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Please join and help us

Please enroll me as a member (or donor) of the Animal Rescue League of Boston. I enclose payment of dues for the class of membership checked below:

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- ☐ Supporting, \$25.00 annually
- ☐ Contributing, \$10.00 annually
- ☐ Active, \$5.00 annually
- ☐ Associate, \$2.00 annually
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Please mail your magazine, Our Fourfooted Friends,
to the address given above.
(\$1 of membership fee covers subscription)

Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117



NEED FOR BEQUESTS

The League continues to rely on the generosity of its friends to meet the ever-expanding needs of our animal population. The cruel realism of inflation makes the League's task in providing needed services more difficult than ever, but with continued support, the challenge can and will be met.

In making a bequest to the League in your will, please remember that the corporate title of our society is "Animal Rescue League of Boston", that it was incorporated in 1899, and has no connection with any other similar society.

FORM of BEQUEST:

I give to the animal Rescue League of Boston, the sum of _____ dollars (or if property, describe the property). The League's address is: 10 Chandler Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116



Animal Rescue League of Boston
P.O. Box 265, Boston, Massachusetts 02117

